

WEATHER  
Probably snow to-day. To-morrow  
probably snow or rain. Moder-  
ate to fresh northeast winds  
Full Report on Page 6



## Break with U.S. a Moral Disaster for Germany

How the News of It Stirred Non-Teutonic Europe, Especially the French

To Them It Seemed Another Verdun—Lloyd George and Briand Expect This Country to Take Part in the War

Mr. Simonds returned yesterday on the Finland. He has been two months on the other side, going about in France and England on an editorial errand. He discussed the war with the statesmen and soldiers responsible for its conduct. He felt it with the poilus and tommies in the trenches. He lived it with the people of both countries. He was at Verdun again. He was in Paris when the Germans resumed the frightful use of the U-boat. He came back, of course, through the new war zone, in which nothing is safe if the Germans can help it. This is the first of a series of articles to appear as a result of his journey.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS

"It is the most important thing for the Allied cause since Verdun." These words of Joseph Reinach, the French statesman and publicist, on the morning when Paris first knew that the United States had severed diplomatic relations with Germany are a fair index of the French view of the American action.

For France the action of the President was accepted as tardy but complete vindication of the universal French view that the war was one between barbarism and civilization; and all France felt that the last of the great nations of the world had finally set its seal of disapproval and condemnation upon German militarism.

The course of the United States did not influence French or British opinion as to peace. The decision on this point had already been made. It had been reached before Mr. Wilson made his first peace gesture. In both nations, as I shall endeavor to point out in subsequent articles, there had been a careful taking of stock weeks before the President sent his first note. Both nations had taken measure of themselves and of their future, and both had decided that there could be no peace without victory, and no life, either for themselves or for the civilization which they believed in, before Germany had been defeated.

### Preceded German Peace Proposal

This decision had preceded the German peace proposal, and that also fell on deaf ears. It awakened no response in the heart or in the head of the masses of the French and the British. President Wilson's subsequent proposals hurt more Germany than they angered, and I am not sure that they did not anger more British than they hurt. But for both they were without appeal.

On the other hand, when the President severed diplomatic relations the effect was enormous. It gave the French precisely that moral impetus which heartened them, appealed to their enthusiasm and gave them not new belief in the justice of their cause, but a sort of indorsement which the declaration of faith by a new convert may give the eldest of the converted.

I do not think it would be possible to calculate the moral effect of the President's action in France. It was a German defeat in French eyes which will not be forgotten, even if, as no Frenchman believes, the fortunes of war are not decisive this year. It destroyed an atmosphere of peace, not dangerous at the moment, but not without future peril, had America continued to remain neutral and to make peace gestures through another year of indecisive jangling.

The effect of the action was electrical. All Paris knew it almost before daylight, and it was a Sunday in which Paris belonged to the few Americans who were there. Among the French it was accepted as the assurance of our immediate entry into the war. The welcome to be prepared for the first American regiment marching through the Champs Elysees and entraining for the front was discussed.

Vindication for Entente  
Yet deeper than this emotion was the sense of having found a complete vindication in the eyes of the one great neutral nation. All through the war it has been incomprehensible for the French that the United States could continue on terms of relative friendliness with the nation whose crimes against

humanity are written all over Northern France and are in the minds and hearts of all Frenchmen. That the United States should finally have recognized the brand of Cain on the German forehead—this was a thing that meant more to the Frenchmen than it is possible to indicate.

And all this was the more impressive because it had so swiftly followed all the peace talk of the President. This talk no Frenchman could or can understand, for it meant for them going back to the old slavery, to the military system that Germany had fastened upon Europe. It meant negotiating with the unpunished murderers of French civilians, with the men and the system that had turned Northern France into a desert and spared neither age nor sex. It meant that France must endure the loss of a million of her sons without even the reward that their sacrifices was meant to have—the ending of the long nightmare that had prevailed since Sedan.

### A Day of Inspiration

I think, so far as France is concerned, that the first Sunday in February will remain a memorable day, and that the cost to Germany in life, in treasure, consequent to the final destruction of all peace talk, of all thought of peace in advance of liberation and victory for France, will outweigh any injury Germany will be able to inflict upon the United States in war.

The effect of the President's action in Great Britain was far less immediate and, I think, far less considerable. Like the French, the British have given over attempting to understand Mr. Wilson's policy. I think there is no question so frequently asked of an American in Europe as that which seeks an explanation of the President's policy—nor is there any question which so defies answer for Americans abroad.

It was the conviction of the mass of the British public that the severing of diplomatic relations was but a step toward war. But would the United States take the next step? Would the President defend American lives with American arms, or would he pause, having severed relations? Would the United States enter the war as an ally of the nations united against Germany or play a lone hand?

### Lloyd George Sees U. S. in War

Mr. Lloyd George, the Prime Minister, with whom I talked just before I sailed, was convinced that America was bound to enter. He spoke with real enthusiasm of the influence that America would exert in the councils of the Allies, when at last a peace settlement was to be made.

I do not think the majority of British statesmen or publicists share this view. I do not think that there is any large enthusiasm in England for American intervention as an ally. Rather, I think that the mass of thoughtful Englishmen feel and felt that the break in diplomatic relations with Germany was a good thing, because it probably put a term to German intrigue in America—that is, to the intrigue which has several times threatened to involve us in difficulties with Great Britain and her Allies and make us in fact an ally of Germany.

Among the officers in the British armies in France I found a considerable belief that America would come in. But the first question that was asked me by Sir Douglas Haig, by General Horne, indeed by all the officers that I met, was: "Will America come in?" On the other hand, Senator-elect Hale, with whom I visited the British front, was greeted with the

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## Congress Faces War Demand

Exposure of German Plot Against U. S. Expected to Arouse Nation

President's Patience Apparently at an End

Certain to Get All Authority He Seeks—Carranza Sent Berlin Letter to Lansing

(From The Tribune Bureau)

Washington, Feb. 28.—The first step by the Administration in abandoning its two-years-long policy of patience toward German insults and aggression was seen here to-night in the fact that the news of one German intrigue against the United States—that to incite Mexico and Japan to war against us—was published.

It is not thought possible that such highly confidential information could have found its way into print by accident, nor that any one would have made public facts so inflammatory unless he knew that the results sure to follow were desired in the highest quarters.

The public sentiment aroused by the revelations will demand action, and the very fact that the revelations were made is taken as an indication that the Administration is prepared to act.

### Has Balked Legislation

For over two years the Administration has bent every effort to calm and soothe American opinion. The extent to which it has succeeded has been the chief obstacle in the way of preparedness legislation, both in the months past and in the last few days, after it became evident that the crisis could no longer be avoided.

To-day's revelation is not soothing. It will undo in a few hours all that has gone before. And the fact that it has been made is interpreted as more than a hint that the time has come when the President wants behind him a nation, not calm nor long suffering, but aroused, awakened and ready to exert its whole power in its own defence.

### See Nation Aroused

Long delay seems impossible after this disclosure, every man who knows the temper of the American people believed to-night. The resentment which will be aroused, together with the bringing home to every American of the fact that the sinister power which precipitated the world war and outraged Belgium is actually threatening us, is believed certain to arouse the nation to a pitch it has not known since the Lusitania was sunk.

With such a spirit in the land, it is not believed that there will be a man who will dare set himself against any measure the President may propose—that even the President himself will be able to check the storm. How far and how fast the new policy will take the country none dare predict, but men who to-day doubted that there would even be a formal declaration of a "state of war" with Germany to-night believe that the Stars and Stripes may yet be seen on the battlefields of Flanders.

### National Crisis Made Clear

The whole German crisis is put on a new basis by to-night's revelations, and as soon as the country realizes that fact tremendous results are expected here. From now on no American can claim that his own interests were not affected. There can be no more talk that the Middle West or the South or any other part of the country has not been threatened by Germany. It has ceased to be a maritime crisis and become a national one.

There was incredulous amazement, quickly followed by indications of a quick change of sentiment from mildness to suspicious belligerency in Congress at midnight, when the first news of the German plot got around. The Senators in touch with foreign relations and leaders on both sides in the House predicted that when once the American people became aware of the intentions of Germany to attack the United States a roar would go up that would be heard even in Congress.

There will be no further holding back now, it was said by many Senators to-night, on giving the President the authority he seeks. A declaration of war will be easily possible before this session of Congress adjourns if the President asks it.

There was a belief among well-informed men to-night that the President may be on the point of again

going before Congress, perhaps to-morrow or Friday, to ask for further authority in the use of the military power of the government against Germany.

Robert Lansing, Secretary of State, and Frank L. Polk, Counselor of the State Department, were reached late to-night on the telephone, but declined to say a further word about the Zimmermann-Bernstorff dispatch.

It is not possible to find out to-night how long the government of the United States has been in possession of the news of the German-Mexican plot.

Members of the Senate who are best informed on foreign relations said to-night that an alliance headed by Germany against the United States would not command Japanese support at this stage of the war.

The Japanese Ambassador, Aikuro Sato, called at the State Department to-day.

### Carranza Exposed Plot

The German instruction, it is understood, came to the State Department from General Carranza, probably through Ambassador Fletcher, who arrived in Mexico City a week ago. On this understanding a new light is thrown on Carranza's attitude, which had appeared suspicious.

On February 12 he transmitted to the United States and all other neutral powers a note proposing to stop shipments of supplies to belligerents and thus end the war. This move was regarded as inspired in Berlin.

If it is true, however, that Carranza himself has thwarted the German plan by exposing the invitation to Mexico to attack the United States, it appears that the peace-embargo proposal was intended as a sop to Germany and to the pro-German element in Mexico, rather than as a serious attempt to further the German cause.

As Bernstorff's instructions to the minister in Mexico City were undoubtedly transmitted in cipher, it seems impossible that they could have reached the State Department otherwise than through the Mexican government.

## La Follette Forces Senate to Postpone Armament Bill

Filibuster Delays Vote Until To-morrow; \$350,000,000 Revenue Bill Passed

Washington, March 1.—Senator La Follette began a single-handed filibuster against the armed neutrality bill when the Senate reconvened at 12:55 o'clock this morning, after a recess of ten minutes following passage of the revenue bill, which went through by a strict party vote of 47 to 33.

Prompt objection to the bill came from Senator La Follette, who insisted upon consuming time speaking the journal of previous days, over the vigorous objection of Senators Fall and Poindexter, Republicans.

Finally the Wisconsin Senator was induced to withdraw his objection on condition that there should be no attempt to pass the bill before to-morrow. When Democratic leaders agreed to this the committee presented the bill with a favorable report, and Senator Stow asked that it lay over until to-morrow.

The Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock this (Thursday) morning, the majority abandoning plans for taking up the naval revenue bill, designed to raise \$350,000,000 by taxes on excess profits, inheritances, and by a bond issue, was the centre of a bitter fight that began at 8 o'clock. Amendment after amendment offered by the Republicans was killed. La Follette led the attempts to revise the measure, and the Senate was treated to the strange spectacle of the Republicans lining up behind the Wisconsin Senator. None of the amendments was adopted.

## Sharp Demand Reply Of U. S. to German Detention of Consuls

Berlin Told Washington Can't Aid German Officials Outside of This Country

Washington, Feb. 28.—Immediate release of four American consuls being detained in Germany was asked in a note sent the Berlin government to-night by the United States, through Dr. Paul Ritter, the Swiss envoy.

The request was made in a communication replying to a note received from Germany earlier in the day in which it was announced that the American officials would be allowed to travel to new posts in Europe when the Berlin government had been officially informed that German consuls in this country ordered to South and Central America had been permitted to proceed.

## German Ship Reported Off Western Mexico

U. S. Officials Hear She May Be Tender to U-Boats

San Diego, Cal., Feb. 28.—Fresh reports that a German steamer has plied along the west coast of Mexico and Central America, for the possible purpose of collecting fuel and stores for German submarines or a German raider were received here to-day by the Federal authorities.

The authorities also learned that a powerful wireless station, the operators of which transmit messages in the slow, methodical manner typical of the German naval radio service, has been in service at a point several miles south of Turtle Bay, Lower California. The mysterious German steamer first was reported at Magdalena Bay, flying the flag of the German navy, on December 10 and February 5. On February 24 she was reported to have coaled and provisioned in the harbor of Acapulco, flying the Honduran ensign.

DON'T LET YOUR STOMACH BOSS YOU. Drink Dr. Brook's Kojima—ADVT.

# Germany Asks Mexico To Seek Alliance with Japan for War on U.S.

## Message from Foreign Secretary Zimmermann to Carranza Reveals Astounding Plot to Attack from Border if This Nation Should Go to War with Teutons; Texas, New Mexico and Arizona Promised as Reward

## Tokio Called Upon to Desert Allies and Form Alliance with Central Powers—Bernstorff Got Instructions from Berlin on January 19 and Sent Them to Minister von Eckhardt—Money and Share in "Victorious Peace" Pledged to Carranza, Together with "Lost Territory"

Washington, Feb. 28.—The Associated Press is enabled to reveal that Germany, in planning unrestricted submarine warfare and counting its consequences, proposed an alliance with Mexico and Japan to make war on the United States, if this country should not remain neutral. Japan, through Mexican mediation, was to be urged to abandon her allies and join in the attack on the United States.

Mexico, for her reward, was to receive general financial support from Germany, reconquer Texas, New Mexico and Arizona—lost provinces—and share in the victorious peace terms Germany contemplated.

Details were left to German Minister von Eckhardt in Mexico City, who by instructions signed by German Foreign Minister Zimmermann at Berlin on January 19, 1917, was directed to propose the alliance with Mexico to General Carranza and suggest that Mexico seek to bring Japan into the plot.

These instructions were transmitted to von Eckhardt through Count von Bernstorff, former German Ambassador here, now on his way home to Germany under a safe conduct obtained from his enemies by the country against which he was plotting war. Germany pictured to Mexico by broad intimation England and the Entente Allies defeated, Germany and her allies triumphant and in world domination by the instrument of unrestricted submarine warfare.

## ZIMMERMANN'S INSTRUCTIONS

A copy of Zimmermann's instructions to von Eckhardt, sent through von Bernstorff, is in possession of the United States Government. It is as follows:

Berlin, January 19, 1917.

On the 1st of February we intend to begin submarine warfare unrestricted. In spite of this, it is our intention to endeavor to keep neutral the United States of America.

If this attempt is not successful, we propose an alliance on the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together and together make peace. We shall give general financial support, and it is understood that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas and Arizona. The details are left to you for settlement.

You are instructed to inform the President of Mexico of the above in the greatest confidence as soon as it is certain that there will be an outbreak of war with the United States, and suggest that the President of Mexico, on his own initiative, should communicate with Japan suggesting adherence at once to this plan; at the same time, offer to mediate between Germany and Japan.

Please call to the attention of the President of Mexico that the employment of ruthless submarine warfare now promises to compel England to make peace in a few months.

(Signed) ZIMMERMANN.

## UNITED STATES KEPT DOCUMENT SECRET

This document has been in the hands of the government since President Wilson broke off diplomatic relations with Germany. It has been kept secret, while the President has been asking Congress for full authority to deal with Germany, and while Congress has been hesitating.

It was in the President's hands while Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg was declaring that the United States had placed an interpretation on the submarine declaration "never intended by Germany" and that Germany had promoted and honored friendly relations with the United States "as an heirloom from Frederick the Great."

Of itself, if there were no other, it is considered a sufficient answer to the German Chancellor's claim that the United States "brusquely" broke off relations without giving "authentic" reasons for its action.

There was an intimation that Germany's astounding proposal that Japan turn traitor to her Allies had been answered by Tokio.

The document supplies the missing link to many separate chains of circumstances, which until now have seemed to lead to no definite point. It sheds new light upon the frequently reported but indefinite movements of the Mexican government to couple its situation with the friction between the United States and Japan.

It adds another chapter to the celebrated report of Jules Cambon, French Ambassador in Berlin before the war, of Germany's world-wide plans for stirring strife on every continent where it might aid her in the struggle for world domination, which she dreamed was close at hand.

It adds a climax to the operations of Count von Bernstorff

and the German Embassy in this country, which have been colored with passport frauds, charges of dynamite plots and intrigue, the full extent of which never has been published.

It gives new credence to persistent reports of submarine bases on Mexican territory in the Gulf of Mexico; it takes cognizance of a fact long recognized by American army chiefs—that if Japan ever undertook to invade the United States it probably would be through Mexico, over the border and into the Mississippi Valley to split the country in two.

It recalls that Count von Bernstorff, when handed his passports, was very reluctant to return to Germany, but expressed a preference for asylum in Cuba. It gives a new explanation to the repeated arrests on the border of men charged by American military authorities with being German intelligence agents.

Last of all, it seems to show a connection with General Carranza's recent proposal to neutrals that exports of food and munitions to the Entente Allies be cut off, and an intimation that he might stop the supply of oil, so vital to the British navy, which is exported from the Tampico fields.

What Congress will do, and how members of Congress who openly have sympathized with Germany in their opposition to clothing the President with full authority to protect American rights will regard the revelation of Germany's machinations to attack the United States, is the subject to-night of the keenest interest.

Such a proposal as Germany instructed her minister to make to Mexico borders on an act of war if, actually, it is not one.

## MEXICANS KNEW OF PLOT

No doubt exists here now that the persistent reports during the last two years of the operations of German agents not alone in Mexico, but all through Central America and the West Indies, are based on fact. There is now no doubt whatever that the proposed alliance with Mexico was known to high Mexican officials who are distinguished for their anti-Americanism. Among them are Rafael Zubaran, Carranza's Minister to Germany, and Luis Cabrera, Carranza's Minister of Finance.

It is apparent that the proposal had taken definite form when Zubaran returned to Mexico City from Berlin recently. His return from his foreign post was covered by the fact that Carranza had called in many of his diplomats for "conferences." Some time before that Cabrera while still at Atlantic City in the conference of the American-Mexican Joint Commission, had suggested in a guarded way to a member of the American section that he regretted that the commission had not succeeded fully in settling the difficulties between Mexico and the United States, for, he said, he had hoped it might continue its work and make peace for the world.

When pressed for some details of how the commission could restore world peace, Cabrera suggested that the American republics controlled the destiny of the war by controlling a large part of its supplies. Mexico, he intimated, might do her part by cutting off exports of oil. The American commissioners dismissed his ideas as visionary.

Almost coincident with Zubaran's return from Germany Cabrera returned to Mexico City, open in his expressions of anti-Americanism. Zubaran, before being sent abroad, had represented General Carranza here while the Niagara mediation conferences were proceeding, and was no less avowedly anti-American than Cabrera.

## VON SCHOEN SENT TO MEXICO

Meanwhile, Baron von Schoen, secretary of the German Embassy here, was transferred to the legation in Mexico City. No explanation could be obtained of the reason for his transfer, and such investigation as was possible failed to develop why a secretary from the United States should be sent to the German Legation in Mexico.

Baron von Schoen's association with the moves, if any at all, does not appear. The only outward indication that he might have been connected with them is found in the fact that he recently had been detached from the German Embassy in Tokio and was well acquainted with the Japanese Minister in Mexico City.

Carranza's peace proposal was openly pronounced an evidence of German influence in Mexico by officials here, who declared it was intended only to embarrass the United States. Then, apparently, some influences showed their effect on the course of the Mexican government, and on February 25 Cabrera, the Minister of Finance, issued a statement describing the

MARY PICKFORD in "Four Little Girls." Running at GRAND THEATRE next week. —ADVT.

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